

**Amendments to the Claims**

Please amend claims 10, 59, 108, 125, 142, 146, 148, 152, 156, 158, 160, and 164, as set forth below. Please add new claims 166 through 169. All other claims are unchanged.

1-9. (Cancelled)

10. (currently amended) A method for simplifying telephonic calling, comprising:

designating a destination area code;  
the user specifying a seven-digit telephone number; and  
causing said call to be signaled using the designated destination area code in combination with the specified seven-digit telephone number, without the user entering said designated destination area code when specifying said seven-digit telephone number, and without analyzing said seven-digit telephone number in relation to telephone numbers previously dialed by the user.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

determining that said designated destination area code is not required to properly signal said call; and  
as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be signaled without using said designated destination area code.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

associating a plurality of area code selectors with a plurality of area codes;  
the user selecting one of said area code selectors and  
thereby selecting its associated area code; and

causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code in combination with said specified seven-digit telephone number, without the user entering said selected area code when specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

determining that said selected area code is not required to properly signal said call; and

as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be signaled without using said selected area code.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, said associating said plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes comprising:

the user associating said plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

changing at least one of the associations to a different association.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

the user changing at least one of the associations to a different association.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, said associating said plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes comprising:

a provider of telecommunications services associating said

5 plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area  
6 codes.

1 18. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, said  
2 associating said plurality of area code selectors with said  
3 plurality of area codes comprising:

4 computerized equipment associating said plurality of area  
5 code selectors with said plurality of area codes.

1 19. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, said  
2 associating said plurality of area code selectors with said  
3 plurality of area codes comprising:

4 associating said plurality of area code selectors with said  
5 plurality of area codes based on an area code configuration.

1 20. (previously presented) The method of claim 19, said area  
2 code configuration comprising area code overlays.

1 21. (previously presented) The method of claim 19, said area  
2 code configuration comprising area code splits.

1 22. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, said  
2 selecting one of said area code selectors comprising:

3 activating a predetermined data entry key.

1 23. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, further  
2 comprising causing said call to be signaled using digits  
3 representing said selected area code in combination with digits  
4 representing said specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 24. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, further  
2 comprising causing said call to be signaled using signaling  
3 information representing said selected area code in combination  
4 with signaling information representing said specified seven-digit

5 telephone number.

1 25. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, further  
2 comprising using a call-originating device for: associating said  
3 plurality of area codes with said plurality of area code  
4 selectors, selecting said selected area code, specifying said  
5 seven-digit telephone number, and causing said call to be  
6 signaled.

1 26. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, further  
2 comprising using customer premises equipment separate from and  
3 connected to a call-originating device, in combination with said  
4 call-originating device, for: associating said plurality of area  
5 codes with said plurality of area code selectors, selecting said  
6 selected area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number,  
7 and causing said call to be signaled.

1 27. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, further  
2 comprising using telecommunications service provider equipment  
3 separate from and connected to a call-originating device, in  
4 combination with said call-originating device, for: associating  
5 said plurality of area codes with said plurality of area code  
6 selectors, selecting said selected area code, specifying said  
7 seven-digit telephone number, and causing said call to be  
8 signaled.

1 28. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, further  
2 comprising using customer premises equipment separate from and  
3 connected to a call-originating device, in combination with  
4 telecommunications service provider equipment separate from and  
5 connected to said customer premises equipment, in further

6 combination with said call-originating device, for: associating  
7 said plurality of area codes with said plurality of area code  
8 selectors, selecting said selected area code, specifying said  
9 seven-digit telephone number, and causing said call to be  
10 signaled.

1 29. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, further  
2 comprising:

3 causing said call to be signaled following the user  
4 specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

1 30. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, further  
2 comprising:

3 causing said call to be signaled as a result of detecting  
4 that a predetermined timing delay has expired following the user  
5 specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

1 31. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, further  
2 comprising:

3 causing said call to be signaled as a result of the user  
4 activating a predetermined data entry key.

1 32. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, further  
2 comprising:

3 designating one of said plurality of area codes to be said  
4 designated destination area code.

1 33. (previously presented) The method of claim 32, further  
2 comprising:

3 designating one of said plurality of area codes to be said  
4 designated destination area code using a "hot button."

1 34. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further

2 comprising:  
3 causing said call to be signaled following the user  
4 specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

1 35. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further  
2 comprising:  
3 causing said call to be signaled as a result of detecting  
4 that a predetermined timing delay has expired following the user  
5 specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

1 36. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further  
2 comprising:  
3 causing said call to be signaled as a result of the user  
4 activating a predetermined data entry key.

1 37. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, said  
2 designating said destination area code comprising:  
3 the user designating said designated destination area code.

1 38. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further  
2 comprising:  
3 changing said designated destination area code to a different  
4 designated destination area code.

1 39. (previously presented) The method of claim 38, further  
2 comprising:  
3 the user changing said designated destination area code to a  
4 different designated destination area code.

1 40. (previously presented) The method of claim 38, further  
2 comprising:  
3 a provider of telecommunications services changing said  
4 designated destination area code to a different designated

5 destination area code.

1 41. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, said  
2 designating said destination area code comprising:

3 a provider of telecommunications services designating said  
4 designated destination area code.

1 42. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, said  
2 designating said destination area code comprising:

3 computerized equipment designating said designated  
4 destination area code.

1 43. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, said  
2 designating said destination area code comprising:

3 designating said designated destination area code to be the  
4 same as an originating area code.

1 44. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, said  
2 designating said destination area code comprising:

3 defaulting said designated destination area code to be the  
4 same as an originating area code.

1 45. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, said  
2 designating said destination area code comprising:

3 designating said designated destination area code to be  
4 different from an originating area code.

1 46. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, said  
2 designating said destination area code comprising:

3 defaulting said designated destination area code to be  
4 different from an originating area code.

1 47. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, said  
2 specifying said seven-digit telephone number comprising:

entering said seven-digit telephone number into a telephone number entry device.

48. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, said specifying said seven-digit telephone number comprising:

retrieving said seven-digit telephone number from a memory.

49. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising causing said call to be signaled using digits representing said designated destination area code in combination with digits representing said specified seven-digit telephone number.

50. (previously presented) The method of claim 49, further comprising causing said call to be signaled using a digit "1" in combination with said digits representing said designated destination area code and in further combination with said digits representing said specified seven-digit telephone number.

51. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising causing said call to be signaled using a digit "1" in combination with digits representing said specified seven-digit telephone number.

52. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising causing said call to be signaled using signaling information representing said designated destination area code in combination with signaling information representing said specified seven-digit telephone number.

53. (previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising causing said call to be signaled using signaling information representing a "1" in combination with said signaling



information representing said designated destination area code and  
in further combination with said signaling information  
representing said specified seven-digit telephone number.

54. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further  
comprising causing said call to be signaled using signaling  
information representing a "1" in combination with signaling  
information representing said specified seven-digit telephone  
number.

55. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further  
comprising using a call-originating device for: designating said  
designated destination area code, specifying said seven-digit  
telephone number and causing said call to be signaled.

56. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further  
comprising using customer premises equipment separate from and  
connected to a call-originating device, in combination with a  
call-originating device, for: designating said designated  
destination area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone  
number and causing said call to be signaled.

57. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further  
comprising using telecommunications service provider equipment  
separate from and connected to a call-originating device, in  
combination with said call-originating device, for: designating  
said designated destination area code, specifying said seven-digit  
telephone number and causing said call to be signaled.

58. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further  
comprising using customer premises equipment separate from and  
connected to a call-originating device, in combination with

telecommunications service provider equipment separate from and connected to said customer premises equipment, in further combination with said call-originating device, for: designating said designated destination area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number and causing said call to be signaled.

59. (currently amended) A computerized system for simplifying telephonic calling, comprising a user interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

- designating a destination area code;
- the user specifying a seven-digit telephone number; and
- causing said call to be signaled using the designated destination area code in combination with the specified seven-digit telephone number, without the user entering said designated destination area code when specifying said seven-digit telephone number, and without analyzing said seven-digit telephone number in relation to telephone numbers previously dialed by the user.

60. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

- determining that said designated destination area code is not required to properly signal said call; and
- as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be signaled without using said designated destination area code.

61. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

- associating a plurality of area code selectors with a

5 plurality of area codes;

6 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and

7 thereby selecting its associated area code; and

8 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code

9 in combination with said specified seven-digit telephone number,

10 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying

11 said seven-digit telephone number.

1 62. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further

2 comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and

3 computerized storage for:

4 determining that said selected area code is not required to

5 properly signal said call; and

6 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be

7 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 63. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further

2 comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and

3 computerized storage for:

4 the user to associate said plurality of area code selectors

5 with said plurality of area codes.

1 64. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further

2 comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and

3 computerized storage for:

4 changing at least one of the associations to a different

5 association.

1 65. (previously presented) The system of claim 64, further

2 comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and

3 computerized storage for:

the user to change at least one of the associations to a different association.

66. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

a provider of telecommunications services to associate said plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes.

67. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

computerized equipment to associate said plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes.

68. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

associating said plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes based on an area code configuration.

69. (previously presented) The system of claim 68, wherein said area code configuration comprises area code overlays.

70. (previously presented) The system of claim 68, wherein said area code configuration comprises area code splits.

71. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further comprising:

data entry keys, wherein said area code selector is specified by activating a predetermined one of said data entry keys.

72. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further

comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
said computerized storage for:

causing said call to be signaled using digits representing  
said selected area code in combination with digits representing  
said specified seven-digit telephone number.

73. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further  
comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
said computerized storage for:

causing said call to be signaled using signaling information  
representing said selected area code in combination with signaling  
information representing said specified seven-digit telephone  
number.

74. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further  
comprising:

a call-originating device for: associating said plurality of  
area codes with said plurality of area code selectors, selecting  
said selected area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone  
number, and causing said call to be signaled.

75. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further  
comprising:

customer premises equipment separate from a call-originating  
device, capable of connecting with said call-originating device,  
for, in combination with said call-originating device, associating  
said plurality of area codes with said plurality of area code  
selectors, selecting said selected area code, specifying said  
seven-digit telephone number, and causing said call to be  
signaled.

1 76. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further  
2 comprising:

3 telecommunications service provider equipment separate from a  
4 call-originating device, capable of connecting with said call-  
5 originating device, for, in combination with said call-originating  
6 device, associating said plurality of area codes with said  
7 plurality of area code selectors, selecting said selected area  
8 code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number, and causing  
9 said call to be signaled.

1 77. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further  
2 comprising:

3 customer premises equipment separate from and capable of  
4 connecting with a call-originating device, in combination with  
5 telecommunications service provider equipment separate from and  
6 capable of connecting with said customer premises equipment, in  
7 further combination with said call-originating device, for:  
8 associating said plurality of area codes with said plurality of  
9 area code selectors, selecting said selected area code, specifying  
10 said seven-digit telephone number, and causing said call to be  
11 signaled.

1 78. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further  
2 comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
3 said computerized storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled following the user  
5 specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

1 79. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further  
2 comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and

3 said computerized storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled as a result of detecting  
5 that a predetermined timing delay has expired following the user  
6 specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

1 80. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further  
2 comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
3 said computerized storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled as a result of the user  
5 activating a predetermined data entry key.

1 81. (previously presented) The system of claim 61, further  
2 comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
3 said computerized storage for:

4 designating one of said plurality of area codes to be said  
5 designated destination area code.

1 82. (previously presented) The system of claim 81, further  
2 comprising:

3 a "hot button" for designating one of said plurality of area  
4 codes to be said designated destination area code.

1 83. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further  
2 comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
3 said computerized storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled following the user  
5 specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

1 84. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further  
2 comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
3 said computerized storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled as a result of detecting

that a predetermined timing delay has expired following the user specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

85. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized storage for:

causing said call to be signaled as a result of the user activating a predetermined data entry key.

86. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized storage for:

the user to designate said designated destination area code.

87. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized storage for:

changing said designated destination area code to a different designated destination area code.

88. (previously presented) The system of claim 87, further comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized storage for:

the user to change said designated destination area code to a different designated destination area code.

89. (previously presented) The system of claim 87, further comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized storage for:

a provider of telecommunications services to change said designated destination area code to a different designated destination area code.



1 90. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further  
2 comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
3 said computerized storage for:

4 a provider of telecommunications services to designate said  
5 designated destination area code.

1 91. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further  
2 comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
3 said computerized storage for:

4 computerized equipment to designate said designated  
5 destination area code.

1 92. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further  
2 comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
3 said computerized storage for:

4 designating said designated destination area code to be the  
5 same as an originating area code.

1 93. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further  
2 comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
3 said computerized storage for:

4 defaulting said designated destination area code to be the  
5 same as an originating area code.

1 94. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further  
2 comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
3 said computerized storage for:

4 designating said designated destination area code to be  
5 different from an originating area code.

1 95. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further  
2 comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and

3 said computerized storage for:

4 defaulting said designated destination area code to be  
5 different from an originating area code.

1 96. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further  
2 comprising:

3 a telephone number entry device, wherein said seven-digit  
4 telephone number is specified by entering said seven-digit  
5 telephone number into said telephone number entry device.

1 97. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further  
2 comprising:

3 a memory, wherein said seven-digit telephone number is  
4 specified by retrieving said seven-digit telephone number from  
5 said memory.

1 98. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further  
2 comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
3 said computerized storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled using digits representing  
5 said designated destination area code in combination with digits  
6 representing said specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 99. (previously presented) The system of claim 98, further  
2 comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
3 said computerized storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled using a digit "1" in  
5 combination with said digits representing said designated  
6 destination area code and in further combination with said digits  
7 representing said specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 100. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further

comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
said computerized storage for:

causing said call to be signaled using a digit "1" in  
combination with digits representing said specified seven-digit  
telephone number.

101. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further  
comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
said computerized storage for:

causing said call to be signaled using signaling information  
representing said designated destination area code in combination  
with signaling information representing said specified seven-digit  
telephone number.

102. (previously presented) The system of claim 101, further  
comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
said computerized storage for:

causing said call to be signaled using signaling information  
representing a "1" in combination with said signaling information  
representing said designated destination area code and in further  
combination with said signaling information representing said  
specified seven-digit telephone number.

103. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further  
comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
said computerized storage for:

causing said call to be signaled using signaling information  
representing a "1" in combination with signaling information  
representing said specified seven-digit telephone number.

104. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further

2 comprising:

3 a call-originating device for: designating said designated  
4 destination area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone  
5 number and causing said call to be signaled.

1 105. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further  
2 comprising:

3 customer premises equipment separate from a call-originating  
4 device, capable of connecting with said call-originating device  
5 for, in combination with said call-originating device: designating  
6 said designated destination area code, specifying said seven-digit  
7 telephone number and causing said call to be signaled.

1 106. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further  
2 comprising:

3 telecommunications service provider equipment separate from a  
4 call-originating device, capable of connecting with said call-  
5 originating device for, in combination with said call-originating  
6 device: designating said designated destination area code,  
7 specifying said seven-digit telephone number and causing said call  
8 to be signaled.

1 107. (previously presented) The system of claim 59, further  
2 comprising:

3 customer premises equipment separate from and capable of  
4 connecting with a call-originating device, in combination with  
5 telecommunications service provider equipment separate from and  
6 capable of connecting with said customer premises equipment, in  
7 further combination with said call-originating device, for:  
8 designating said designated destination area code, specifying said

seven-digit telephone number and causing said call to be signaled.

108. (currently amended) A method for simplifying telephonic calling, comprising:

associating a plurality of area code selectors with a plurality of area codes;

the user selecting one of said area code selectors and thereby selecting its associated area code;

the user specifying a seven-digit telephone number; and causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code in combination with said specified seven-digit telephone number, without the user entering said selected area code when specifying said seven-digit telephone number, and without analyzing said seven-digit telephone number in relation to telephone numbers previously dialed by the user.

109. (previously presented) The method of claim 108, further comprising:

determining that said selected area code is not required to properly signal said call; and

as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be signaled without using said selected area code.

110. (previously presented) The method of claim 108, said associating said plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes comprising:

the user associating said plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes.

111. (previously presented) The method of claim 108, further comprising:

changing at least one of the associations to a different association.

112. (previously presented) The method of claim 111, further comprising:

the user changing at least one of the associations to a different association.

113. (previously presented) The method of claim 108, said associating said plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes comprising:

a provider of telecommunications services associating said plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes.

114. (previously presented) The method of claim 108, said associating said plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes comprising:

computerized equipment associating said plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes.

115. (previously presented) The method of claim 108, said associating said plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes comprising:

associating said plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes based on an area code configuration.

116. (previously presented) The method of claim 115, said area code configuration comprising area code overlays.

117. (previously presented) The method of claim 115, said area code configuration comprising area code splits.

118. (previously presented) The method of claim 108, said

2 selecting one of said area code selectors comprising:

3 activating a predetermined data entry key.

1 119. (previously presented) The method of claim 108, further  
2 comprising causing said call to be signaled using digits  
3 representing said selected area code in combination with digits  
4 representing said specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 120. (previously presented) The method of claim 108, further  
2 comprising causing said call to be signaled using signaling  
3 information representing said selected area code in combination  
4 with signaling information representing said specified seven-digit  
5 telephone number.

1 121. (previously presented) The method of claim 108, further  
2 comprising using a call-originating device for: associating said  
3 plurality of area codes with said plurality of area code  
4 selectors, selecting said selected area code, specifying said  
5 seven-digit telephone number, and causing said call to be  
6 signaled.

1 122. (previously presented) The method of claim 108, further  
2 comprising using customer premises equipment separate from and  
3 connected to a call-originating device, in combination with said  
4 call-originating device, for: associating said plurality of area  
5 codes with said plurality of area code selectors, selecting said  
6 selected area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number,  
7 and causing said call to be signaled.

1 123. (previously presented) The method of claim 108, further  
2 comprising using telecommunications service provider equipment  
3 separate from and connected to a call-originating device, in

combination with said call-originating device, for: associating said plurality of area codes with said plurality of area code selectors, selecting said selected area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number, and causing said call to be signaled.

124. (previously presented) The method of claim 108, further comprising using customer premises equipment separate from and connected to a call-originating device, in combination with telecommunications service provider equipment separate from and connected to said customer premises equipment, in further combination with said call-originating device, for: associating said plurality of area codes with said plurality of area code selectors, selecting said selected area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number, and causing said call to be signaled.

125. (currently amended) A computerized system for simplifying telephonic calling, comprising a user interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

associating a plurality of area code selectors with a plurality of area codes;

the user selecting one of said area code selectors and thereby selecting its associated area code;

the user specifying a seven-digit telephone number; and

causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code in combination with said specified seven-digit telephone number, without the user entering said selected area code when specifying said seven-digit telephone number, and without analyzing said



seven-digit telephone number in relation to telephone numbers  
previously dialed by the user.

126. (previously presented) The system of claim 125, further comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:  
determining that said selected area code is not required to properly signal said call; and

as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be signaled without using said selected area code.

127. (previously presented) The system of claim 125, further comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

the user to associate said plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes.

128. (previously presented) The system of claim 125, further comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

changing at least one of the associations to a different association.

129. (previously presented) The system of claim 128, further comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

the user to change at least one of the associations to a different association.

130. (previously presented) The system of claim 125, further comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

4           a provider of telecommunications services to associate said  
5 plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area  
6 codes.

1 131. (previously presented) The system of claim 125, further  
2 comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and  
3 computerized storage for:

4           computerized equipment to associate said plurality of area  
5 code selectors with said plurality of area codes.

1 132. (previously presented) The system of claim 125, further  
2 comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and  
3 computerized storage for:

4           associating said plurality of area code selectors with said  
5 plurality of area codes based on an area code configuration.

1 133. (previously presented) The system of claim 132, wherein said  
2 area code configuration comprises area code overlays.

1 134. (previously presented) The system of claim 132, wherein said  
2 area code configuration comprises area code splits.

1 135. (previously presented) The system of claim 125, further  
2 comprising:

3           data entry keys, wherein said area code selector is specified  
4 by activating a predetermined one of said data entry keys.

1 136. (previously presented) The system of claim 125, further  
2 comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
3 said computerized storage for:

4           causing said call to be signaled using digits representing  
5 said selected area code in combination with digits representing  
6 said specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 137. (previously presented) The system of claim 125, further  
2 comprising said user interface, said computerized processing, and  
3 said computerized storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled using signaling information  
5 representing said selected area code in combination with signaling  
6 information representing said specified seven-digit telephone  
7 number.

1 138. (previously presented) The system of claim 125, further  
2 comprising:

3 a call-originating device for: associating said plurality of  
4 area codes with said plurality of area code selectors, selecting  
5 said selected area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone  
6 number, and causing said call to be signaled.

1 139. (previously presented) The system of claim 125, further  
2 comprising:

3 customer premises equipment separate from a call-originating  
4 device, capable of connecting with said call-originating device,  
5 for, in combination with said call-originating device, associating  
6 said plurality of area codes with said plurality of area code  
7 selectors, selecting said selected area code, specifying said  
8 seven-digit telephone number, and causing said call to be  
9 signaled.

1 140. (previously presented) The system of claim 125, further  
2 comprising:

3 telecommunications service provider equipment separate from a  
4 call-originating device, capable of connecting with said call-  
5 originating device, for, in combination with said call-originating

device, associating said plurality of area codes with said plurality of area code selectors, selecting said selected area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number, and causing said call to be signaled.

141. (previously presented) The system of claim 125, further comprising:

customer premises equipment separate from and capable of connecting with a call-originating device, in combination with telecommunications service provider equipment separate from and capable of connecting with said customer premises equipment, in further combination with said call-originating device, for: associating said plurality of area codes with said plurality of area code selectors, selecting said selected area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number, and causing said call to be signaled.

142. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium comprising a set of instructions executable by a computerized system for simplifying telephonic calling, said computer-readable medium comprising one or more instructions for:

designating a destination area code;  
the user specifying a seven-digit telephone number; and  
causing said call to be signaled using the designated destination area code in combination with the specified seven-digit telephone number, without the user entering said designated destination area code when specifying said seven-digit telephone number, and without analyzing said seven-digit telephone number in relation to telephone numbers previously dialed by the user.

1 143. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim  
2 142, further comprising one or more instructions for:

3 determining that said designated destination area code is not  
4 required to properly signal said call; and

5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be  
6 signaled without using said designated destination area code.

1 144. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim  
2 142, further comprising one or more instructions for:

3 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a  
4 plurality of area codes;

5 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and  
6 thereby selecting its associated area code; and

7 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code  
8 in combination with said specified seven-digit telephone number,  
9 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying  
10 said seven-digit telephone number.

1 145. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim  
2 144, further comprising one or more instructions for:

3 determining that said selected area code is not required to  
4 properly signal said call; and

5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be  
6 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 146. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium comprising a  
2 set of instructions executable by a computerized system for  
3 simplifying telephonic calling, said computer-readable medium  
4 comprising one or more instructions for:

5 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a

6 plurality of area codes;  
7 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and  
8 thereby selecting its associated area code;  
9 the user specifying a seven-digit telephone number; and  
10 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code  
11 in combination with said specified seven-digit telephone number,  
12 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying  
13 said seven-digit telephone number, and without analyzing said  
14 seven-digit telephone number in relation to telephone numbers  
15 previously dialed by the user.

1 147. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim  
2 146, further comprising one or more instructions for:

3 determining that said selected area code is not required to  
4 properly signal said call; and  
5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be  
6 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 148. (currently amended) A method for simplifying telephonic  
2 calling, comprising:

3 designating a destination area code;  
4 the user specifying a destination telephone number; and  
5 causing said call to be signaled using the designated  
6 destination area code in combination with the specified  
7 destination telephone number, without the user entering said  
8 designated destination area code when specifying said destination  
9 telephone number, and without analyzing said destination telephone  
10 number in relation to telephone numbers previously dialed by the  
11 user.

1 149. (previously presented) The method of claim 148, further  
2 comprising:

3 determining that said designated destination area code is not  
4 required to properly signal said call; and

5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be  
6 signaled without using said designated destination area code.

1 150. (previously presented) The method of claim 148, further  
2 comprising:

3 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a  
4 plurality of area codes;

5 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and  
6 thereby selecting its associated area code; and

7 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code  
8 in combination with said specified destination telephone number,  
9 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying  
10 said destination telephone number.

1 151. (previously presented) The method of claim 150, further  
2 comprising:

3 determining that said selected area code is not required to  
4 properly signal said call; and

5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be  
6 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 152. (currently amended) A computerized system for simplifying  
2 telephonic calling, comprising a user interface, computerized  
3 processing, and computerized storage for:

4 designating a destination area code;

5 the user specifying a destination telephone number; and

causing said call to be signaled using the designated destination area code in combination with the specified destination telephone number, without the user entering said designated destination area code when specifying said destination telephone number, and without analyzing said destination telephone number in relation to telephone numbers previously dialed by the user.

153. (previously presented) The system of claim 152, further comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

determining that said designated destination area code is not required to properly signal said call; and

as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be signaled without using said designated destination area code.

154. (previously presented) The system of claim 152, further comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

associating a plurality of area code selectors with a plurality of area codes;

the user selecting one of said area code selectors and thereby selecting its associated area code; and

causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code in combination with said specified destination telephone number, without the user entering said selected area code when specifying said destination telephone number.

155. (previously presented) The system of claim 154, further comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and



3 computerized storage for:

4 determining that said selected area code is not required to  
5 properly signal said call; and

6 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be  
7 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 156. (currently amended) A method for simplifying telephonic  
2 calling, comprising:

3 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a  
4 plurality of area codes;

5 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and  
6 thereby selecting its associated area code;

7 the user specifying a destination telephone number; and  
8 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code  
9 in combination with said specified destination telephone number,  
10 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying  
11 said destination telephone number, and without analyzing said  
12 destination telephone number in relation to telephone numbers  
13 previously dialed by the user.

1 157. (previously presented) The method of claim 156, further  
2 comprising:

3 determining that said selected area code is not required to  
4 properly signal said call; and

5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be  
6 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 158. (currently amended) A computerized system for simplifying  
2 telephonic calling, comprising a user interface, computerized  
3 processing, and computerized storage for:

4 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a  
5 plurality of area codes;  
6 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and  
7 thereby selecting its associated area code;  
8 the user specifying a destination telephone number; and  
9 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code  
10 in combination with said specified destination telephone number,  
11 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying  
12 said destination telephone number, and without analyzing said  
13 destination telephone number in relation to telephone numbers  
14 previously dialed by the user.

1 159. (previously presented) The system of claim 158, further  
2 comprising said user interface, computerized processing, and  
3 computerized storage for:

4 determining that said selected area code is not required to  
5 properly signal said call; and  
6 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be  
7 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 160. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium comprising a  
2 set of instructions executable by a computerized system for  
3 simplifying telephonic calling, said computer-readable medium  
4 comprising one or more instructions for:

5 designating a destination area code;  
6 the user specifying a destination telephone number; and  
7 causing said call to be signaled using the designated  
8 destination area code in combination with the specified  
9 destination telephone number, without the user entering said

designated destination area code when specifying said destination telephone number, and without analyzing said destination telephone number in relation to telephone numbers previously dialed by the user.

161. The computer-readable medium of claim 160, further comprising one or more instructions for:

determining that said designated destination area code is not required to properly signal said call; and

as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be signaled without using said designated destination area code.

162. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 160, further comprising one or more instructions for:

associating a plurality of area code selectors with a plurality of area codes;

the user selecting one of said area code selectors and thereby selecting its associated area code; and

causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code in combination with said specified destination telephone number, without the user entering said selected area code when specifying said destination telephone number.

163. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 162, further comprising one or more instructions for:

determining that said selected area code is not required to properly signal said call; and

as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be signaled without using said selected area code.

164. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium comprising a

set of instructions executable by a computerized system for simplifying telephonic calling, said computer-readable medium comprising one or more instructions for:

associating a plurality of area code selectors with a plurality of area codes;

the user selecting one of said area code selectors and thereby selecting its associated area code;

the user specifying a destination telephone number; and

causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code in combination with said specified destination telephone number, without the user entering said selected area code when specifying said destination telephone number, and without analyzing said destination telephone number in relation to telephone numbers previously dialed by the user.

165. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 164, further comprising one or more instructions for:

determining that said selected area code is not required to properly signal said call; and

as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be signaled without using said selected area code.

166. (new) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

providing a prompt advising the user of the association between said area code selectors and their associated area codes; and

the user selecting one of said area code selectors in response to said prompt.

167. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising said user

2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:  
3 providing a prompt advising of the association between said  
4 area code selectors and their associated area codes; and  
5 selecting one of said area code selectors in response to said  
6 prompt.

1 168. (new) The method of claim 108, further comprising:  
2 providing a prompt advising the user of the association  
3 between said area code selectors and their associated area codes;  
4 and  
5 the user selecting one of said area code selectors in  
6 response to said prompt.

1 169. (new) The system of claim 125, further comprising said user  
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:  
3 providing a prompt advising of the association between said  
4 area code selectors and their associated area codes; and  
5 selecting one of said area code selectors in response to said  
6 prompt.